September 2012



The Bay Leaf

California Native Plant Society • East Bay Chapter Alameda & Contra Costa Counties

www.ebcnps.org

www.groups.google.com/group/ebcnps

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Growing California Native Plants Speaker: Katherine Greenberg

Wednesday, September 26, 7:30 pm

Location: Auditorium, Orinda Public Library (directions

below)

Katherine Greenberg will talk about her contributions to the 2nd edition of *Growing California Native Plants*, first published thirty years ago. In addition to the knowledge contributed by Marjorie Schmidt in the original book, Katherine has added plants, an extensive plant selection guide, 200 color photographs, and new ideas about native plant horticulture to this practical and informative reference. Katherine has been growing native plants in her Lafayette garden for three decades. She will share her experience of making a native garden inspired by the natural landscape and make suggestions for companion plants.

Katherine Greenberg is a gardener and designer with a special interest in California native plants. She was the founding president of the Friends of the Regional Parks Botanic Garden, and she is a past president of the Mediterranean Garden Society and Pacific Horticulture Society. Katherine has been involved in planning a number of educational programs, including the Growing Natives Symposium. Her garden was selected for a *Garden Design* Green Award in 2010, and her book, *Growing California Native Plants*, 2nd edition, was published by UC Press in 2012. Katherine will be leading a Pacific Horticulture tour of Morocco & Andalucia: Islamic Gardens and Architecture in April, 2013 (www.pacifichorticulture.org).

East Bay CNPS membership meetings are free of charge and open to everyone. This month's meeting takes place in the Auditorium of the Orinda Public Library at 24 Orinda Way (in Orinda Village). The Garden Room is on the second floor of the building, accessible by stairs or an elevator. The Garden Room opens at 7 pm; the meeting begins at 7:30 pm. Contact Sue Rosenthal, 510-496-6016 or rosacalifornica2@earthlink. net, if you have questions.

Directions to Orinda Public Library at 24 Orinda Way:

From the west, take Hwy 24 to the Orinda/Moraga exit. At the end of the off ramp, turn left on Camino Pablo (toward Orinda Village), right on Santa Maria Way (the signal after the BART station and freeway entrance), and left on Orinda Way.

From the east, take Hwy 24 to the Orinda exit. Follow the ramp to Orinda Village. Turn right on Santa Maria way (the first signal) and left on Orinda Way.

Once on Orinda Way, go 1 short block to the parking lot on the southeast side of the two-story building on your right. There is additional free parking beneath the building as well as on the street.

From BART (4 blocks): Exit the Orinda station, turn right and cross a pedestrian bridge, then cross a second pedestrian bridge on the left. Go 1 short block on the sidewalk to the third pedestrian bridge. Go 2 blocks on Orinda Way to the Orinda Library.

BRINGING BACK THE NATIVES FALL EVENTS

The Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour is coordinating a series of fall events. The first is a free Native Plant Sale Extravaganza, which will take place on Oct. 7 from 10:00 - 4:00. Native plants will be sold at eight locations (Berkeley, Concord, Moraga, Oakland, Orinda, Richmond, San Lorenzo, San Pablo), three private gardens will be open for viewing, and talks will be offered throughout the day. Pre-registration is required.

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A second event taking place this fall is a series of small, guided, private tours of native plant gardens. These will be offered throughout September and October. The cost is \$30. Participants will learn how to remove their lawn, install grey water and rain water systems, design beautiful native plant gardens that will provide color and beauty throughout the year, and more.

http://www.bringingbackthenatives.net/fall-select-tours

http://www.bringingbackthenatives.net/fall-plant-sale

CONSERVATION ANALYST'S REPORT

Attention Alameda County Residents! Please help EBCNPS oppose the Oakland Zoo's Parcel Tax (Measure A1) this November.

Measure A1, dubbed as the zoo's "Humane Animal Care/ Education Protection" measure, actually gives the zoo carte blanche to spend about \$6 million of public funds annually for virtually any purpose by levying a \$12 parcel tax on residents of Alameda County.

The California Native Plant Society's East Bay Chapter and the Friends of Knowland Park are working to organize opposition to this ballot measure.

Funding Habitat Destruction in Knowland Park: this measure, if passed, would allow the zoo to collect \$6 million annually from Alameda County Residents for 25 years totaling up to \$150 million for the zoo. Due to the measure's wording (see reference 1 below), it will be possible for the zoo to use this money for anything it deems "consistent with the general purposes listed in the expenditure plan." These broad "general purposes" include education and animal care, both of which the zoo has used as a rational for their environmentally harmful 56 acre theme park development in Knowland Park (see reference 2 below). Recently, the zoo began sending letters to select environmental groups claiming that the funds generated from this tax would not be used for the expansion development, but these letters are not legally binding and we know from experience that the zoo will not hesitate to renege

on past agreements in order to get its way. Even if these particular dollars don't pay for the new interpretive center and bay view executive offices, even if these tax dollars aren't used to pave over the existing wildlife habitat in the park, they will simply be used to free up money for that purpose.

The issue of biodiversity is critical here. If the zoo continues with its theme park development in the heart of Knowland Park, there will be extensive impacts to the park's diverse and relatively intact native plant communities, including the rare maritime chaparral and rare native grasslands, coastal scrub, oak woodlands, and riparian corridor of Arroyo Viejo watershed which also provide an array of wildlife habitats. Recent studies have shown that mountain lions use the park as part of a critical migratory corridor in pursuit of black tailed deer. The park is also home to a rich array of amphibians, lizards and snakes, (including the state and federally-listed Alameda whipsnake) found in the grasslands, chaparral and creeks.

Smaller mammals such as wood rats, mice, voles, moles, shrews, brush rabbits, and pocket gophers provide an abundant prey base, and diverse songbirds and raptors forage in the park. We are trying to ensure that Alameda County tax payers are not duped into giving any more of their money to the zoo in order to finance the fencing off and destroying of their public park land.

Lack of Transparency: the zoo already has multiple sources of public funds: general fund and hotel tax revenues from



The Oakland Zoo wants to build a theme park development on this public park land and now it wants Alameda County residents to pay for it. Photo by Mack Casterman.

Oakland totaling at least \$500K annually, \$4M in bond money and \$800K a year from the East Bay Regional Park District's general fund, and a \$7M grant from State Parks. Zoo admission and membership prices have risen, and now the zoo wants all of Alameda County's property owners to pay for what it dubs as a "regional resource."

During the public review for the zoo's expansion plan, zoo executives repeatedly assured the City of Oakland and the public that no new public funds would be needed for the development, however, according to this measure, the zoo does not have enough money to continue even the basic animal care requirements of the organization. It is extremely deceptive for the zoo to suggest that it needs money to care for its animals when it (supposedly) has money for a \$72 million expansion project. This is a marketing ploy that will leave county residents paying Oakland's bill. The zoo choked off any opportunity for public discourse by bringing this measure up at the last possible minute in order to rush its approval and avoid potential conflict with environmental organizations. They know that many environmental groups do not meet in August due to vacations and that it takes time to move endorsements/opposition up through the committees and through the boards. The zoo is hoping that no transparency will ensure no dialogue can happen.

Bad Public Policy: buried deep inside this ballot measure is a section (see reference 3 below) that allows money gained from this tax to be used by the zoo to defend the measure in the event of a lawsuit from the public claiming the zoo is misusing its funds. This should be a red flag to anyone considering whether or not to oppose this measure.

What You Can Do:

Visit http://saveknowland.org to read updates on our campaign and get more info about the Oakland Zoo's history of environmental mismanagement at Knowland Park. Tell your friends and neighbors about this deceptive measure that will cause unknowing Alameda County Residents to fund the fencing off and destruction of their own public open space land, and vote NO on Measure A1 this November.

Mack Casterman, EBCNPS Conservation Analyst

References

These refer to the wording in the resolution passed by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors on July 24th regarding this ballot measure. The complete resolution can be found here: http://ow.ly/d1Iok

1.) The following paragraph is listed in the "miscellaneous" section of the ballot measure's expenditure plan. (p. 20 of Board of Supervisors Resolution)

"The above projects and programs are examples of priorities that have been identified by the community as important needs for improving the Zoo. Projects are not listed in priority order and may be enhanced, supplemented or expanded to the extent funds are available and funding allocations may be updated to accommodate changing needs. To maintain consistency with the purposes of Measure X, including as expressed in this Expenditure Plan, the Zoo may delete a project or service among the examples listed in this Expenditure Plan, may substitute unidentified but similar projects and services for those listed, and may decide the order in which projects and services are initiated and completed, as long as expenditures of revenue from Measure X are consistent with the general categories of projects listed in this Expenditure Plan. Because the tax authorized by Measure X will be in effect after projects and services listed in this Expenditure Plan are completed or become less responsive to community need, the Zoo may undertake new projects and services consistent with the general purposes listed in this Expenditure Plan."

2.) Section 2.30.010 H. under the Definitions Heading (pg. 11 of Board of Supervisors Resolution) Bolding of text added for emphasis by EBCNPS.

H. ""Services and Projects" means the operations of the Oakland Zoo, including but not limited to acquisition of, caring for, and publicly displaying animals, deployment of appropriate personnel, and maintaining, operating, and improving existing facilities; providing and supporting educational and conservation programs involving, without limitation, animals, native habitats, and nature, as well as other Zoo-related programs; community outreach; constructing, expanding, remodeling, renovating, furnishing, equipping, or financing of facilities; keeping visitor fees affordable; and maintaining and improving visitor services. Financing the construction of new or renovation of existing Oakland Zoo capital facilities is within the definition of services and projects. The Zoo operator may use special tax funds to provide services anywhere in Alameda County, but may not use them for programs and projects outside of Alameda County. Services and projects are more fully defined in the Expenditure Plan approved by the voters of Alameda County as part of approving the Oakland Zoo Special Tax."

3.) Section 2.30.040. "Use of Oakland Zoo Special Tax Revenue". (p. 13 of Board of Supervisors Resolution) Bolding of text added for emphasis by EBCNPS.

A. "Moneys in the Oakland Zoo Fund shall be used exclusively first, to pay for the costs of the election necessary to enact this Chapter, then: to pay for the services and projects of the Oakland Zoo, as defined in Section 2.30.01 (H); to pay for all costs of administering this Chapter by the Zoo operator; and to reimburse the County as provided for in subdivision C of this Section. If this Chapter or the use of special tax funds is legally challenged, special tax funds may be used to reimburse the County and the Zoo operator for their costs of legal defense, including attorneys' fees and other expenses."

Mack Casterman

FALL AT NATIVE HERE

Did we "dodge the bullet" by having weather fairly cool when days were longest? Let's hope so, although sometimes there are very hot days late summer and fall. Our watering crew has faithfully tended their sections of the nursery, rationing out water twice a week to the thousands of plants being grown for sale.

Friday morning continues to be "production" time, with as many as 12 volunteers busily transferring plants into larger containers to accommodate root growth.

While we are happy to sell plants through the summer, it is often a good idea to hold them in pots until late October in order to be able to keep the roots cool.

It's great to see how robust our "display" plants in 15 gallons and in the ground are, but they are so robust we have had to

do some pruning. We try to time that so the pruned pieces can be struck as cuttings, but that doesn't always work out perfectly.

New volunteers are always welcome, especially now when the nursery needs to be groomed for the Plant Fair, when areas are put to more public use, plants need to be tended, new plants set out on the sales floor and accounted for in the inventory, etc.

Nursery hours continue to be Tuesday afternoons (noon to 3), Friday morning 9-noon, and Saturdays 10 am to 2 pm. Come in to volunteer or to shop. We could use your help either way.

Charli Danielsen

PLANT FAIR: OCTOBER 27 AND 28

The Chapter's annual celebration of native plants is scheduled for Saturday, October 27, 10-2 and Sunday, October 28, noon-3 at Native Here Nursery.

This year's Plant Fair has a new feature. On Saturday, October 27, 1 pm to 3 pm poetry will join art and flowers.

Deep Roots: Poetry and Plants

The program starts with an open reading for 30 minutes on native-plant-related themes (bring your poetry to read), followed by one hour and 30 minutes of readings by featured poets, including:

Kim Shuck, author of the collection *Smuggling Cherokee* and winner of numerous writing awards including the Native Writers of the Americas First Book Award, and the Mary Tall Mountain Award.

Lucille Lang Day is the author of eight poetry collections and chapbooks, most recently *The Curvature of Blue*. She has also published a children's book, *Chain Letter*, and her memoir, *Married at Fourteen*, will soon be out from Heyday Press. Her poetry and prose have appeared widely in such magazines and anthologies as *Atlanta Review*, *The Hudson Review*, *The Threepenny Review*, and *New Poets of the American West*. Her website is http://lucillelangday.com.

Chris Olander is a California Poetry In The Schools (CPITS) poet, eco-educator, and a California State Championship Poetry Coach for Poetry Out Loud.

Kirk Lumpkin is a poet, performer, lyricist, environmentalist, and cultural worker. He is the author of two books of poetry, *In Deep* and *Co-Hearing*. He has released two poetry/music CDs with his band The Word-Music Continuum, the self-titled CD *The Word-Music Continuum* and more recently

Sound Poems. He works as the Special Events & Promotions Coordinator of the Ecology Center's Farmers' Markets.

On Sunday, October 28, 1 pm

Native Plants for Butterflies in Your East Bay Garden Liam O'Brien, lepidopterist: A talk focused on native plants female butterflies need to lay their eggs on that you can grow in your East Bay garden. Think beyond nectar sources (flowers): Think about what you can serve the caterpillars to munch on and continue their life cycles. The talk will be illustrated by Liam's beautiful paintings of butterflies.

More art will be on display and for sale in vendor's booths:

Lake and Lake Photography and Garden Delights have both confirmed they will have booths at the Fair. There are other vendors whose response is awaited. Check the website for updates as Fair time approaches.

The list of plants on offer is in preparation and will also be posted in advance of the Fair.

Bulb packets will be offered. Iris and ferns will be offered starting the weekend of the Fair.

If you'd like to coordinate a silent auction or contest, or if you have contact with an artisan, toolmaker or other vendor that might have plant/nature related work to offer, please contact Charli nativehere@ebcnps.org .

Please tell your friends about the Fair. It is a major source of support for East Bay Chapter's volunteer activities.

Charli Danielsen



NATIUE PLANT FAIR

Sat. October 27 10-3 Sun. October 28 Noon-3



RESTORATION

Saturday, September 1 at 9:00 am. Genista rip at Redwood Regional Park: This crew will continue to attack French broom, but the focus will be on clipping and bagging seed pods until rain softens the ground enough for serious weeding. Redwood Park staff will provide water and tools, but you are free to bring your own tools if you prefer.

Directions: From Oakland or Highway 24, take Highway 13 south, exit at Redwood Road (35th Ave. exit from 580). Turn left at the end of the exit ramp, and follow Redwood Road over the ridge, past Skyline, and continue downhill for about 3 miles. You will see an entrance sign on the right for Lake Chabot Regional Park, but keep going. The entrance to Redwood Regional Park will appear on your left a short distance further. Drive past the entrance kiosk, and go straight through on the entrance road until you see the signs for Canyon Meadow picnic area. From Castro Valley or other points south, take 580, exit at 35th Ave, and turn right to follow 35th Ave. uphill. 35th Ave. will change its name to Redwood Road—follow the rest of the directions for Oakland. If you have questions, you can contact DRosario@ebparks. org or janetgawthrop47@gmail.com.

Saturday, September 1 (first Saturday of each month), 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, at Pt. Isabel: We remove invasive plants and re-vegetate with native plants grown from plants found at the site. We are located at the end of Rydin Road just off the I-580 next to Hoffman Marsh. Contact info: e-mail: kyotousa@sbcglobal.net, cell: 510-684-6484

Saturday, September 8, 9:30 am, Huckleberry Regional Botanic Preserve. We will rip and bag cape ivy in an isolated patch on the upper side of the botanic loop trail. We have made great progress in liberating ferns and elk clover, but a return trip is best to mop up sprouts and stems before fall rains start in earnest. Park staff will provide water and tools, but e-mail requests for tools are helpful, and you can send them to jmanley@ebparks.org.

Directions: From Highway 13, exit at Moraga/Thornhill. Stay on southbound Moraga as it parallels Highway 13 until it changes its name to Mountain. Turn left (uphill) onto Snake at the stoplight for Mountain and Snake. For Huckleberry and Sibley parks, follow all of the directions up to the left turn onto Snake. You will then make a hard left turn (more than 90 degrees) to stay on Snake. Follow Snake to its end at Skyline, and then turn left onto Skyline. Huckleberry Park appears first on the right side, and Sibley Park is a scant half mile further north on Skyline.

Sunday, September 16, 9:00 am, Sibley Regional Park. We will meet at the parking lot on the Oakland side, just off of Skyline Blvd. Depending on turnout, we may divide into two groups again, one to attack the wall of *Genista* on the Sibley-to-Tilden trail, and the other to weed and bag forgetme-nots, *Vinca*, and remove garden *Prunus* escapes. If you

have questions, you can e-mail janetgawthrop47@gmail.com or jmanley@ebparks.org.

Directions: see Huckleberry directions just above.



SUMMER RESTORATION AT POINT ISABEL

August. High summer and it felt like rain out at Pt. Isabel for our monthly work party. It worked to our advantage as the coolness of the day made the work much more pleasant for the 16 volunteers who turned out to help. Joining 14 regular volunteers were CNPSer Mike S. and Britt Thorsnes, EBRPD gardener from Lake Temescal. A small crew wheel-barrowed weeds hundreds of yards from up and down the trail to a green waste dumpster provided for us by the EBRPD. The larger crew dug out invasive pea, removed oat grass, spread mulch, picked up all the trash from Central Ave. to the dog park(!), and bagged trash from the southern part of the trail including the ever-present plastic, pieces of an old stove, and hundreds of pieces of old battery casings. (Pt. Isabel was at one time called Battery Point!) Mike also found a small infestation of cape ivy which he pulled and bagged.

We were rewarded with glorious yellow blooms on the *Grindelia stricta*/Gum Plant, as well as the other beautifully flowering marsh plants *Limonium californicum*/Sea Lavender aka Marsh Rosemary, *Frankenia salina*/Alkali Heath, and *Jaumea carnosa*/Marsh Jaumea. A Black-crowned Night Heron showed up (the first one we've seen along that part of the trail), mourning doves were pecking away at seeds, and we spotted a myriad of shore birds. It seems, too, that it is the

season for praying mantis as they seem to be everywhere. Cyclists and hikers called out to us during the work party to tell us how much they are enjoying this part of the trail.

We are preparing for late fall planting of California sagebrush (*Artemisia caifornica*), lizardtail (*Eriophyllum stachaedifolium*), and native bunch grasses. Our work crews have done an amazing job of preparing the planting areas which will continue at the September and October work parties – to which you are all cordially invited!

The work parties take place the first Saturday of each month at Pt. Isabel on the Bay Trail, 10 am to 2 pm. We are located at the end of Rydin Road just off the I-580 next to Hoffman Marsh. Contact info: Tom Kelly, kyotousa@sbcglobal.net, cell: 510-684-6484 if you need more information.

Kudos to Scott Possin, Bruce Adams and other crew members from the EBRPD who support us in every way and who make this project possible.

(Photos by Jane Kelly, clockwise from upper left: volunteers, *Grindelia stricta*, a praying mantis, (*Limonium californicum*)









THE BAY LEAF September 2012

ACTIVITIES OF OTHERS

Wednesdays and Thursdays, September 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, 26 and 27, 10 am-4 pm, Butterfly surveys on Antioch Dunes National Wildlife Refuge

Lange's metalmark butterflies are emerging in adult form in September, and Susan Euing, refuge biologist, needs your help in counting them. Lange's metalmark are one of several rare species found in this refuge; others are the Antioch Dunes evening primrose and a limited variety of naked stem buckwheat, host to Lange's metalmark larvae. You will be briefed on what to do and what to look for each day, so first timers are welcome. Antioch Dunes heat can be challenging, but the payoff in spotting butterflies and plants is fabulous and worth the heat. Volunteers should contact Susan Euing in advance, as the refuge is normally locked. You can e-mail for directions and reservations to 510-521-9716 or e-mail Susan Euing@yahoo.com. Volunteers need to wear sturdy shoes, long pants to fend off *Bromus diandrus* seeds, and a hat. Bring water and lunch.

Saturday, September 15, 9 am-noon, Creek to Bay Day in Garber Park. Join The Garber Park Stewards in our 3rd year of participation in the City of Oakland's Creek to Bay Day. Our goal is to remove the invasives that are threatening to encroach on the Measure DD funded Creek Stabilization project along Harwood Creek completed just last January.

As part of Garber Park's Creek to Bay Day activities Lech Naumovich, Golden Hour Restoration Institute, will be on hand to discuss the importance of Garber's wetlands and the riparian corridor along Harwood Creek. Learn to identify the unique plant and animal resources that reside here as well as the invasive plants that threaten the survival of this unique ecosystem.

Meet at the Evergreen Lane entrance at 9 am, sign in, enjoy some coffee and snacks, and then be ready for an enjoyable morning of restoration work. Wear long sleeves and pants, sturdy shoes and a hat. We provide tools and gloves, but do bring your own gloves if you have them.

Directions: For Internet directions the closest address is 144 Evergreen Lane, Berkeley. From Alvarado Rd, take Slater Lane, then right on Evergreen Lane The entrance is at the end of the street. Click here for the map.

For more information contact Shelagh <u>garberparkstewards@gmail.com</u> or visit our blog <u>www.garberparkstewards.blogspot.com</u>.

Thursday, October 4, 6:30pm-7:30 pm, 159 Mulford Hall, UC Berkeley Campus, Sudden Oak Death (SOD) Blitz 2012 Results. Come hear the results from the SOD Blitz from April, 2012. The meeting will last about one hour and will include: 1) the results of SOD Blitz testing in our local communities, 2) the latest information and recommendations for SOD management and 3) treatment options and strategies for

your area. You will also learn about the <u>SODMAP</u> the most complete distribution map of SOD in North America. Since only oaks within 1 km (.o6 mi) of known infected trees are at high risk of becoming infected, you can check the SODMAP to see if you are in a high risk area.

Sudden Oak Death Treatment Workshop

Friday, October 5, 10 am-noon, Garber Park, Evergreen Lane Entrance.

The presenter is Dr. Matteo Garbelotto, UCCE Specialist in Forest Pathology and Mycology, UC Berkeley. Dr. Garbelotto conducted pioneering research in the identification and disbursement of *Phytopthora ramorum* on the Pacific Coast and has expanded his investigations to include strategies for prevention and on-site treatments for Sudden Oak Death (SOD).

Dr. Garbelotto will present this two-hour field workshop in Garber Park, a 13-acre City of Oakland Open Space Park with a heritage Coast Live Oak forest in which the presence of SOD infection has been confirmed.

Dr. Garbelotto will demonstrate treatment methods aimed at the prevention and spread of Sudden Oak Death, including the strategic removal of Bay Laurel trees, the use of phosphonate treatments for individual trees, fire issues, including how and when to protect your home from SOD-related risk, how to clean tools and shoes to avoid the spread of SOD, when to perform yard work such as pruning so as not to increase the risk of infection, and how to safely dispose of infected plant material.

The workshop will conclude with a presentation on the lab's common garden experiment and the resistant tan oaks that emerged from that project - a potential tool for the future.

For more information about this workshop and to **RSVP** contact Shelagh at garberparkstewards.blogspot.com. To learn more about Sudden Oak Death and other SOD Treatment workshops presented by Dr. Garbelotto visit www.matteolab.org.

Directions to Garber Park: For Internet directions the closest address is 144 Evergreen Lane, Berkeley. From Alvarado Rd, take Slater Lane, then left on Evergreen Lane. The entrance is at the end of the street.

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EBCNPS Sponsored Activities

Native Here Nursery

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Plant Fair

Charli Danielsen, Chair nativehere@ebcnps.org

California Native Plant Society East Bay Chapter P.O. Box 5597, Elmwood Station Berkeley CA 94705

Membership Application and Renewal Form

Name	Membership category:
Address	Individual, \$45
Zip Telephone	Family, Library, Group or International, \$75 Plant lover, \$100
Email	Patron, \$300 Benefactor, \$600
I wish to affiliate with: East Bay Chapter (Alameda and Contra Costa Counties) Other	Mariposa Lily, \$1500 Limited Income or student, \$25.00 Other

Mail application and check to: California Native Plant Society, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento CA 95816